

Message Text

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ORIGIN ARA-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SS-15 OES-07 SIG-03 MMO-04 A-01
ABF-01 AID-05 L-03 EPA-04 CEQ-01 SP-02 AGRE-00
EB-08 IO-14 ACDA-12 MCT-01 SNM-05 DEAE-00 CIAE-00
INR-10 NSAE-00 DODE-00 NRC-07 NSC-05 DOE-15 SOE-02
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DRAFTED BY ARA/ECP:JHENNEKE:LJ
APPROVED BY ARA/ECP:SHROGERS
ARA/MGT:WCALDERHEAD
ARA/AND:AFULLER
ARA/CAR:JGRIFFITH
ARA/CEN:WMATTHEWS
ARA/ECA:SMYLES
ARA/MEX:EBITTNER
ARA/PAN:DWAGNER
T/D:DKATCHUR-OES/APT:CMCCLELLAND
-----060550 101635Z /45

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO ALL AMERICAN REPUBLIC DIPLOMATIC POSTS

UNCLAS STATE 118666

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: AFSP, TGEN, XM

SUBJECT: SCIENCE ATTACHE PROGRAM AND GLOBAL ISSUES

1. THE DEPARTMENT IS CURRENTLY REVIEWING THE SCIENCE ATTACHE PROGRAM AND ASSESSING THE COVERAGE OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY ISSUES ABROAD. MANY OF THE MOST IMPORTANT GLOBAL ISSUES OF OUR FOREIGN POLICY HAVE SIGNIFICANT SCIENTIFIC AND TECHNOLOGICAL CONTENT. THESE ISSUES HAVE LONG BEEN AN APPROPRIATE FOCUS FOR THE
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DEPARTMENT'S SMALL CORPS OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY COUNSELORS AND ATTACHES AND OF DIRECT INTEREST TO OTHER OFFICERS WHO HAVE SPECIALIZED IN THIS AREA IN THE ABSENCE OF A FULL-TIME SCIENCE OFFICER.

2. AS PART OF THE DEPARTMENT'S REVIEW, WE REQUEST THAT EACH POST GIVE US ITS BEST JUDGMENTS IN ANSWER TO THE

FOLLOWING QUESTIONS:

A. WHAT SPECIFIC SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY GLOBAL ISSUES (SUCH AS THOSE IN PARAGRAPH 4, PLUS ANY OTHERS YOU SEE AS IMPORTANT) WILL REQUIRE PRIORITY ATTENTION BECAUSE OF THEIR INCREASING IMPORTANCE TO U.S. RELATIONS WITH YOUR HOST COUNTRY DURING THE NEXT 5-10 YEARS? WHICH WILL BE OF DECREASING IMPORTANCE?

B. BEARING IN MIND THE PRESIDENT'S INTENTION TO REDUCE AMERICAN OVERSEAS STAFFING, IS YOUR PRESENT STAFF ADEQUATE TO HANDLE SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY ASPECTS OF SUCH ISSUES? WOULD YOU RECOMMEND ASSIGNMENT OF (ADDITIONAL) SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY OFFICERS OR GENERALIST OFFICERS WITH SPECIAL BRIEFINGS AND SHORT-TERM TRAINING IN SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY ASPECTS? ADDITIONAL SECRETARIAL SUPPORT SHOULD ALSO BE INCLUDED, IF NECESSARY.

3. YOUR RESPONSES SHOULD BE A SUBSTANTIVE ASSESSMENT OF THE IMPORTANCE OF THE ISSUES AS WELL AS A MANAGEMENT ASSESSMENT OF PERSONNEL AND BUDGETARY REQUIREMENTS. RESPONSES TO QUESTION (B) SHOULD BE AS SPECIFIC AS POSSIBLE IN ORDER TO QUANTIFY WHAT ADDITIONAL RESOURCES MAY BE NEEDED, BUT THEY WILL NOT BE REGARDED AS YOUR DEFINITIVE RECOMMENDATIONS UNTIL FURTHER INFORMATION IS AVAILABLE ABOUT CHANGES IN THE SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

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PROGRAM OR IN ANY CASE UNTIL THEY ARE SUBMITTED AS PART OF BUDGET PROCESS.

4. SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY GLOBAL ISSUES:

-- NUCLEAR ENERGY TECHNOLOGY, ESPECIALLY MONITORING THE SPREAD OF NUCLEAR ENERGY TECHNOLOGY UNDER APPROPRIATE INTERNATIONAL SAFEGUARDS.

-- ENERGY TECHNOLOGY, INCLUDING DEVELOPING U.S. ROLE IN THE INTERNATIONAL SEARCH FOR ADDITIONAL FOSSIL FUELS, ENERGY CONSERVATION, AND ALTERNATIVE ENERGY TECHNOLOGIES.

-- OCEANS, INCLUDING THE DEVELOPMENT OF AN ACCEPTABLE INTERNATIONAL REGIME. THE TOPIC INCLUDES NEGOTIATION, OR ADJUSTMENT, OF THE LAW OF THE SEA CONVENTION, RESOURCE MANAGEMENT, GLOBAL NAVIGATION TECHNOLOGIES, COMMUNICATIONS RIGHTS, SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH, MARINE POLLUTION AND STRATEGIC INTERESTS.

-- ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION, INCLUDING MONITORING AND PRESERVATION OF THE UPPER ATMOSPHERE, THE AVAILABILITY AND PURITY OF WATER, THE CONTROL OF POLLUTION AND OF THE SPREAD OF TOXIC AND HAZARDOUS SUBSTANCES, AND THE IMPACT OF SOIL DEGRADATION.

-- HEALTH AND NUTRITION, ESPECIALLY NATIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL EFFORTS TO COMBAT THE SPREAD OF DISEASES.
-- POPULATION INCREASES, PARTICULARLY IN AREAS WHERE DEVELOPMENT MAY BE RETARDED, AND WHERE UNREST, INSTABILITY AND INADEQUATE PROVISION OF BASIC HUMAN NEEDS MAY RESULT.
-- FOOD TECHNOLOGY, ESPECIALLY AS IT IMPACTS ON PRODUCTION, CONSUMPTION AND DISTRIBUTION SYSTEMS;

-- NEW TRENDS IN TECHNOLOGICAL INNOVATION OR INDUSTRIAL PRODUCTION, ESPECIALLY INFORMATION RELEVANT TO THE EVALUATION OF A SOCIETY AND FOR THE ASSESSMENT OF OUR COMPETITIVE POSITION.
-- COMMUNICATIONS/SPACE TECHNOLOGY, INCLUDING SATELLITES
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FOR COMMUNICATIONS AND SURFACE MONITORING AND OTHER APPLICATIONS WHICH CREATE FOREIGN POLICY PROBLEMS AND OPPORTUNITIES.
-- TECHNOLOGY TRANSFER, ESPECIALLY DEVELOPING BILATERAL AND MULTILATERAL CHANNELS AND INSTRUMENTS TO PARTICIPATE

IN INTERNATIONAL EXCHANGES CONSISTENT WITH THE FREE ENTERPRISE SYSTEM.
-- PRIVATE AND PUBLIC EXPENDITURES ON R AND D BY FOREIGN COUNTRIES. SUCH DATA PROVIDE USEFUL INSIGHTS INTO FUTURE TRADE AND INDUSTRIAL POTENTIALS AND IDENTIFY AREAS FOR POSSIBLE COLLABORATION.
-- ARMS TECHNOLOGY AND DISARMAMENT, ESPECIALLY THE SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY ASPECTS OF U.S. POLICY INITIATIVES AND FOREIGN GOVERNMENT RESPONSES.
-- SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY COOPERATION AND INSTITUTIONAL AND PERSONAL RELATIONSHIPS. HIGH TECHNOLOGY AS AN ELEMENT IN OUR COMPETITIVE POSITION FOR GOODS IN INTERNATIONAL TRADE AND IN OUR BALANCE OF PAYMENTS.
-- TECHNOLOGICAL ASPECTS OF TERRORISM, ESPECIALLY INTERNATIONAL CONTROL THROUGH USE OF NEW WEAPONS AND DETECTION AND MONITORING SYSTEMS.
-- NARCOTICS INFORMATION SYSTEMS, ESPECIALLY THE USE OF COMMUNICATIONS AND COMPUTER TECHNOLOGY IN CONTROLLING NARCOTICS TRAFFIC.

5. PLEASE RESPOND BY JUNE 2, 1978. VANCE

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